

HF Happenings



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the week of 1 February 2016

The Leap Year Challenge

You are invited to take part in the Leap Year Challenge on Monday 29 February 2016 and make as many contacts as you can on this day. The challenge starts at 00:01 and ends at 23:59 CAT all modes, all bands. Work a station once only regardless of band, mode or call sign.



Submit your log by midnight on Wednesday 2 March 2016 by e-mail to zs4bfn@mweb.co.za. The log received with the most QSOs will win a SARL membership for 2016/2017. If you do not take part, you will have to wait until 2020, the next leap year, to put the date 29 February into your logbook!

History of the Morse Key

Since the first Morse telegraph systems were introduced, an enormous variety of Morse keys or telegraph keys and keyers have been constructed.

From Straight keys including the Camelback Morse key, to automatic Morse keyers such as the Vibroplex, their development has seen many new innovations and enormous changes in style.

Even today, many people enjoy sending Morse Code using these Morse keys. While some may say that they are simply a switch, this is most certainly not the case. Morse keys have been the subject of over 300 patents in the USA alone, and they have undergone a considerable amount of development. The way in which keys have developed since the very first ones used by Morse himself is a fascinating story. Some styles of key are quite familiar, whilst others have quite unusual attributes and as a result, many people find collecting keys a fascinating pastime.

Watch this video about the history of the Morse key at <https://youtu.be/yw9z82COjU8>

There is also a text page on the Electronics+radio website at <http://www.electronics-radio.com/articles/history/morse-code-telegraph/morse-key-development.php>

DXCC Approved Operation

Sharon Taratula, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, reports that the following operation is approved for DXCC credit - TT8AMO - Chad, 2015 Operation

African DX

Ethiopia, ET. ET7L has been active from Mekanisa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia since 17 January, with spare time activity on 30, 17, 15 and 12 metres so far.

Operations on the low bands will start over the weekend, as on 29 January the operators gained access to the main tower and were able to install a sloping dipole with traps for 160, 80 and 40 metres. Bookmark <http://et7l.dxer.com.ua/> for updates. Log search on Club Log, OQRS to be enabled later.

Traditional cards via USOLW; the logs will be uploaded to LoTW after the end of the operation.



South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925



Senegal, 6W. Jean-Louis, F5NHJ is active as 6W7/F5NHJ from M'bour. Activity is holiday style on 20, 17 and 15 metres using mostly RTTY and PSK31, with some SSB. QSL to his home call.

Angola, D2. Vasco, CS7ACE is active as D2ACE from Luanda. He is active on the HF bands using SSB and some digital modes. His length of stay is unknown. QSL direct to home call.



Lesotho, 7P. Members of the radio club F6KOP are going to put Lesotho on the air as 7P8C from 8 to 17 February. They plan to run five stations on 160 to 6 m using SSB, CW and RTTY. QSL via ClubLog OQRS.

The Gambia, C5. Alan, G4DJX, will be active as C5DX from Banjul and Farafenni, The Gambia between 12 and 19 February. He plans to operate mainly CW on 40 to 10 metres from Banjul and to demonstrate SSB from the Senior Secondary High School in Farafenni. QSL via LoTW, or direct to home call.

Namibia, V5. Werner, DC8QT, Georg, DD8ZX, and Klaus, DJ9KM, plan to operate holiday style from the Otjikoko Guest farm near Omaruru between 9 and 18 February. They will operate SSB, RTTY and PSK on 160 to 10 metres and will participate in the CQ WW WPX RTTY Contest possibly as V55V. QSL V55V via DJ8VC, others via home calls.

Botswana, A2. Operators Nobby, G0VJG, Nick, G4FAL, Giles, M0TGV, Tony, G4DLD, and Edd, G0WED will be active as A25UK from Tuli Block between 13 and 19 April. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via MOOXO, direct, eQSL or ClubLog's OQRS (direct or Bureau). For more details and updates, see www.prismembroidery.co.uk/dxexp/a25uk

Morocco, CN. Mike, DF8AN, will be active as CN2AY from Marrakech between 25 and 29 March. Activity will be on 160 to 6 metres using mainly CW. He will be testing various antennas to use on his 9MOS operation and looking for real reports. QSL via DF8AN, direct or by the Bureau. No eQSL and NO LoTW.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

February

- 2 - World Wetland's Day
- 7 - AWA CW Activity Day
- 10 - Ash Wednesday
- 13 and 14 - SARL National Field Day; CQ WW WPX RTTY Contest
- 14 - SARL Youth Net at 15:00 UTC; Valentine's Day
- 15 - Closing date for the PEARS VHF/UHF logs
- 20 - SARL Youth Sprint
- 24 - Closing date for March Radio ZS articles
- 27 - West Rand ARC Flea Market
- 27 - National Milk Tart Day
- 28 - SARL Digital Contest
- 29 - The Leap Year Challenge

March

- 5 and 6 - Buffalo City Hobby and Craft Expo, East London
- 6 - SARL Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest
- 18 - All schools close
- 19 and 20 - SARL VHF/UHF Field Day
- 20 - Autumn equinox, Palm Sunday
- 21 - Human Rights Day
- 22 - Closing date for April Radio ZS articles; World Water Day
- 23 - World Meteorological Day
- 24 - Purim
- 25 - Good Friday
- 26 - Two Oceans Marathon
- 27 - Easter Sunday
- 28 - Easter Monday / Family Day



SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Coetivy Island, S7. A video (about 37 minutes) of the recent November S79C Coetivy Island DXpedition is now available on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=eKXIjVWvKos#t=291

Crozet Island, FT5XT. Gildas, TU5KG usually operates /mm when in the Crozet (FT5WQ) and Kerguelen (FT5XT) waters, but on 23 January he was able to be active from Kerguelen Island for about one hour on 15 metres SSB. QSL direct to F4DXW.

Mauritius Island, 3B8. Eric, OE4AAC, will be active holiday style as 3B8HD from Mauritius Island (AF-049) from 11 February to 1 March. He will operate mainly CW on the HF bands. QSL via his home call, direct or bureau. There is a Log search and OQRS on Club Log.

Pantelleria Island, IT9. Gianfranco, IT9SPB, Giuseppe, IT9HBT, Paolo, IT9MYB, Gabry, IT9RGY and Andrei, RA6LBS will be active as IH9A from Pantelleria Island (WW Loc JM56xt), African Italy, during the CQ 160 m SSB Contest (26 to 28 February) as a Multi-Op/Not-Assisted/High-Power entry. Their set-up will be an Elecraft K3, 4-Square full size vertical antennas and 5 Beverages from 300 m long with the sound system by Andrey, RA6LBS, Low Band System. QSL via LoTW.

Cape Verde, D4. Massimo, IZ4DPV, will once again be active as D4C from Sao Vicente Island (AF-086) during the ARRL DX SSB Contest (5 and 6 March) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (??m) entry. QSL via HB9DUR direct or IK2NCJ by the Bureau.

Juan De Nova DXpedition, FT4JA. Press Release dated 26 January - edited. Thank you for your engagement! - We are extremely happy to receive donations for our project. Everybody is now well aware that the countries of the Top 10 DXCC are not easy to activate, sometimes because of difficult access, sometimes because of the political situation or the extremely high budget required to organise an expedition.

Juan de Nova has long been on the list of these islands activated regularly by scientists, mostly members of the French meteorological agency and occasionally by soldiers. The last major activity was in 2003 from the nearby island of Europa. Almost 13 years of silence to an island in the Indian Ocean, close to other very common entities DXCC list. That is right; this little island is located about 100 km from the western coast of Madagascar. So why is it complicated and expensive to go?

Well, first, it is a question of authorisation. Like other islands, the French Southern and Antarctic Lands prefecture, which is in charge of these territories, administer JDN. Most of them are classified as nature reserves to maintain these places as wild as possible. Moreover, it is no coincidence that these places are often considered reference (level 0) in terms of human impact. Millions of birds can breed and nest in peace, like turtles. It would be nonsensical to allow streaming missions.

After our operation on Tromelin in 2014, TAAF accepted our application for authorisation, possibly because of mutual trust and positive relationships established during these years of preparation. For our part, we do our best not to be a "weight" to these people and ensure immediately take into account all the remarks and recommendations of the different services involved.

From one place to the other, the constraints are different and we had to rethink a number of aspects of the operation. Air transport used in 2014 was not possible, mainly because of the volume and weight to carry. The assistance received (transport crates) for Tromelin was not possible this year.

Therefore, we had to settle for a maritime solution by soliciting a ship allowed to park in the lagoon and to transport our team and our equipment. With the various tourist taxes, this represents about 70% of the total budget. The cost of our energy independence is also important because we have to route multiple generators, proper electrical installation and motor fuel (10 - 15%). For an operation of this magnitude, these costs are difficult to compress, especially we need to respect a precise schedule of load, which we will not waive.

On the other hand, we tried to best optimize our costs and makes as much as possible to use the material available from each of us or loaned by our generous sponsors. Although the team (10 operators) finance a good part of the expedition - which is quite logical, we launched an appeal to amateur radio associations around the world as well as from DXers. It is indisputable that this mobilisation has led to progress in the organization and that without it; our expedition would have remained at the planning stage.

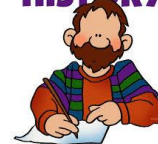
To you, contributors, sponsors or members of associations/clubs/foundations that help us, we take you hat off. However, it is important that the mobilization will continue on different continents to continue to support the team's efforts.

We can only be proud and happy to so many brands of sympathy and generosity. Who says the Ham Spirit no longer existed? Be sure to follow them on their Twitter, Facebook and web site at <https://twitter.com/juandenovad>, www.facebook.com/juandenovadx and www.juandenovadx.com

This week in History

(The week starting 1 February 2016)

HISTORY



7 February 1812 - British novelist Charles Dickens (1812 - 1870) was born in Portsmouth, England. In 1843, he wrote 'A Christmas Carol' in just a few weeks, an enormously popular work even today.

4 February 1902 - Aviation pioneer Charles Lindbergh (1902 - 1974) was born in Detroit, Michigan. He made the first non-stop solo flight from New York to Paris on 20 and 21 May 1927.

6 February 1952 - King George VI of England died. Upon his death, his daughter Princess Elizabeth became Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Her actual coronation took place on 2 June 1953.

1 February 2003 - Sixteen minutes before it was scheduled to land, the Space Shuttle Columbia broke apart in flight over west Texas, killing all seven crewmembers.

3019 (SR) The Fellowship rests in Lothlórien.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 1 to 8 February 2016

Iranian Ham Radio Contest
00:00 UTC 1 February to 23:59 UTC 11 February
Mode: Any
Bands: 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op
Exchange: RS(T)
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 11 May 2016
E-mail logs to: epcontest.2016@gmail.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://hamcontest.ir/contest/>
RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB

20:00 - 21:30 UTC 1 February

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RS and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 8 February 2016

Upload log at:

<http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2016/r80mcc.shtml>

ARS Spartan Sprint

02:00 - 04:00 UTC 2 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Skinny; Tubby

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and power

Work stations: Once per band

Submit logs by: 4 February 2016

E-mail logs to: spartansprint@yahoo.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://arsqrp.blogspot.com/2009/02/so-whats-spartan-sprint-and-how-do-i.html>

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC 3 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 4 February 2016

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 3 February

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 5 February 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contests_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 3 February and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 4 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 6 February 2016

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

UKEICC 80 m Contest

20:00 - 21:00 UTC 3 February

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op Connected - high, low or QRP; Single Op Unconnected - high, low or QRP

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: 4-Character grid square

QSO Points: 1 point per 500 km; multiply QSO points by 2 if low power station; multiply QSO points by 4 if QRP station

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 22:00 UTC 3 February 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://logs.ukaiccc.com/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ukaiccc.com/which-contest/contest-rules/ukeicc-80-m-contests-rules>

NRAU 10 m Activity Contest

18:00 - 19:00 UTC (CW), 19:00 - 20:00 UTC (SSB), 20:00 - 21:00 UTC (FM) and 21:00 - 22:00 UTC (Dig) 4 February

Mode: CW, SSB, FM, Digital

Bands: 10 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RS(T) and 6-character grid square

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 18 February 2016

Upload log at:

http://ua9qcq.com/en/submit_log.php?lang=en

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.nrau.net/activity-contests/below-30mhz.html>

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 5 February

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: February 7, 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC 5 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 6 February 2016

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint Ladder

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 5 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 7 February 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

YLRL YL-OM Contest

14:00 UTC 5 February to 02:00 UTC 7 February

Mode: CW/Digital, SSB

Bands: All

Classes: (none)

Max operating hours: 24 hours

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: QSO no, RS(T) and section, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each section, province, country once per mode

Power factor: x 3 for QRP, x 1,5 for LP

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x power factor

Submit logs by: 6 March 2016

E-mail logs to: w1jx@arrl.net

Mail logs to: Roberta Donohue, W1JX, 103 Surry Rd, Ellsworth, ME 04605, USA

Find rules at:

<http://ylrl.org/index.php/contests-and-dx-awards>

Triathlon DX Contest

00:00 - 07:59 (CW), 08:00 - 15:59 UTC (SSB) and 16:00 - 23:59 UTC 6 February (RTTY)

Mode: CW, SSB, RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Mode; Single Op CW; Single Op SSB; Single Op RTTY

Exchange: RS(T) and serial no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 2 points per QSO with different country, same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent; 3 additional points per QSO with Greek station

Multipliers: Each DXCC entitle once per band per mode; Each Greek station once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 29 February 2016

E-mail logs to: dxtriathlon@gmail.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://triathlon-dx-contest.gr/contest/index.php/rules>

Vermont QSO Party

00:00 UTC 6 February to 24:00 UTC 7 February

Mode: All

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, VHF/UHF

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: VT: RS(T) and county; non-VT W/VE: RS(T) and state or province; DX: RS(T)

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW or digital QSO

Multipliers: VT: each state, province, country, VT county and VT club station once per mode; non VT: each VT county/VT club station once per mode

Power: >150 W: 1 X, 5 - 150 W: 1,5 X, 5 W: 2 X

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x power multiplier

Submit logs by: 7 March 2016

E-mail logs to: ranv@sover.net

Mail logs to: Vermont QSO Party, PO Box 9392, South Burlington, VT 05403-9392, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.ranv.org/vtqso.html>

10-10 International Winter SSB Contest

00:01 UTC 6 February to 23:59 UTC 7 February

Mode: Phone

Bands: 10 m Only

Classes: Individual; Club; QRP; Mobile

Max power: QRP: 10 watts

Exchange: 10-10 Member: Name, 10-10 number and state, province or country; Non-Member: Name, 0 and state, province or country

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with 10-10 member; 1 point per QSO with non-member

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 22 February 2016

E-mail logs to: tentencontest@ten-ten.org

Upload log at:

<http://www.hamclubs.info/scorer/>

Mail logs to: Dan Morris, KZ3T, 3162 Covington Way, Lenoir, NC 28645, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.ten-ten.org/index.php/activity/2013-07-22-20-26-48/qso-party-rules>

F9AA CW Cup

12:00 UTC 6 February to 12:00 UTC 7 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 2 m

Classes: >100 W; >10 - 100 W; 10 W

Exchange: RST and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with individual; 5 points per QSO with club; Bonus: 50 points for each QSO with F8URC

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 8 March 2016

E-mail logs to: concoursf9aa@urc.asso.fr

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.site.urc.asso.fr/urchaut-6/om-6/131-trophee-f9aa.html>

Black Sea Cup International

12:00 UTC 6 February to 11:59 UTC 7 February

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB or mixed - low or high; Single Op Mixed QRP; Single Op Single Band Mixed; Multi-Single Mixed; HQ - club or national organisation; SWL

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: HQ: RS(T) and club/org abbreviation; Black Sea Countries: RS(T) and ITU Zone no; BSCC Members: RS(T), "BS" and club number; Others: RS(T) and ITU Zone no

Work stations: Once per mode per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same ITU Zone; 3 points per QSO with different ITU Zone same continent; 5 points per QSO with different ITU Zone different continent; 10 points per QSO with Black Sea Region countries or BSCC Members

Multipliers: Each ITU Zone once per band; Each HQ station once per band; Each Black Sea country once per band; Each BSCC member once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 17 February 2016

E-mail logs to: bs_cup@ukr.net

Mail logs to: BSCI, Box 4, Kerch 98319, Ukraine

Find rules at:

<http://bscc.ucoz.ru/index/0-21>

FYBO Winter QRP Sprint

14:00 - 24:00 UTC 6 February

Mode: CW, SSB, Digital

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - home or field; Multi-Single - home or field; Multi-Multi - home or field; Mobile

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RS(T), state, province or country, name, power out and temperature (F)

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; 100 points per QSO with NQ7RP per mode per band

Multipliers: state/province/country once per band; Field: x 4; Alternative Power: x 2; QRPp (<1 W): x 2

Temperature: 65 F = x 1, 50 - 64 F = x 2, 40 - 49 F = x 3, 30 - 39 F = x 4, 20 - 29 F = x 5, <20 F = x 6

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x spc mults x temp mult x alt pwr mult x field mult x QRPp mult) and NQ7RP QSO points

Submit logs by: 7 March 2016

E-mail logs to: FYBO2012@azscorpions.org
Mail logs to: Mike Baker, K7DD, 8845 W.
Diana Ave., Peoria, AZ 85345, USA
Find rules at:
<http://www.azscorpions.com/fybo2009rules.html>

Minnesota QSO Party

14:00 - 24:00 UTC 6 February
Mode: CW (CW/RTTY/PSK), Phone (FM/SSB)
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Single Op Phone; Mobile Single Xmtr; Mobile Unlimited; Multi-Op; Rover
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: MN: Name and County; W/VE: Name and state or province; DX: Name
Work stations: Once per band per mode per county
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO
Multipliers: MN Entrants: MN counties, states, DC, VE provinces/territories, 1 DX once; Non-MN Entrants: MN counties once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 15 March 2016
E-mail logs to: mngp@w0aa.org
Mail logs to: MNQP, 4745-170th Lane NE, Ham Lake, MN 55304-5233, USA
Find rules at:
<http://www.w0aa.org/docs/mngp/MNQP%20Contest%20Rules.pdf>

AGCW Straight Key Party

16:00 - 19:00 UTC 6 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: 5 W (A); 50 W (B); 150 W (C); SWL (D)
Exchange: AGCW: RST, serial no, "/", Class, "/", name, "/" and age
QSO Points: 9 points per A-A QSO; 7 points per A-B QSO; 5 points per A-C QSO; 4 points per B-B QSO; 3 points per B-C QSO; 2 points per C-C QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 28 February 2016

E-mail logs to: htp@agcw.de
Mail logs to: Friedrich W. Fabri, DF1OY, Birnheck 2, D-65779 Kelkheim, Germany
Find rules at:
<http://www.agcw.org/index.php/en/contests-and-cw-activities/straight-key-party-htp>

British Columbia QSO Party

16:00 UTC 6 February to 04:00 UTC 7 February
Mode: CW, SSB, Digital
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Op - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: BC: RS(T) and district; non-BC: RS(T) and state, province or "DX"
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 2 point per SSB QSO; 4 points per CW QSO; 4 points per digital QSO; 20 bonus points per QSO with VA7ODX
Multipliers: BC: each BC district, each state, each VE province/territory once per band per mode; non-BC: each BC district once per band per mode
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 7 March 2016
E-mail logs to: bcqp@orcadxcc.org
Mail logs to: Orca DX and Contest Club, 444 - 604 Columbia St., New Westminster, BC V3M 1A5, Canada
Find rules at:
http://www.orcadxcc.org/bcqp_rules.html

FISTS Winter Slow Speed Sprint

17:00 - 21:00 UTC 6 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: QRP; QRO; Club
Max power: QRO: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: FISTS: RST, state, province or country, first name and FISTS no; non-FISTS: RST, state, province or country, first name and power
Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with FIST member; FIST members: 2 points per QSO with non-FIST member

Multipliers: Each US state and VE province once; Each DXCC country once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 7 March 2016

E-mail logs to: n2ed@fistsna.org

Mail logs to: c/o Ed Wlodarski, N2ED, 3 Shore Rd., Andover, NJ 07821-2240

Find rules at:

<http://fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints>

Mexico RTTY International Contest

18:00 UTC 6 February to 17:59 UTC 7 February

Mode: RTTY Only

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - low or high

Max operating hours: 24 hours

Exchange: XE: RST and state; non-XE: RST and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with same country; 3 points per QSO with different country; 4 points per QSO with XE

Multipliers: Mexican states and Federal District once per band; DXCC countries once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 10 March 2016

E-mail logs to: rtty@fmre.mx

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.rtty.fmre.mx/FMRE_RTTY_International_contest/Rules.html

North American CW Sprint

00:00 - 04:00 UTC 7 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max operating hours: 4 hours

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no, your name and your state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7) once; Each VE province once; Each North American country (except W/VE) once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 14 February 2016

E-mail logs to: (see rules, web upload preferred)

Upload log at:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/sprintlogsubmit/>

Mail logs to: Boring Amateur Radio Club, 15125 Bartell Road, Boring, OR 97009, USA

Find rules at:

<http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf>

ARRL School Club Roundup

13:00 UTC 8 February to 23:59 UTC 12 February

Mode: CW, Phone, RTTY/Digital

Bands: All, except 60, 30, 17, 12 m

Classes: Single Op (I); Club/Multi-Op (C); School Club/Group (S)

Max operating hours: 24 hours total; 6 hours out of any 24-hour period with off times of at least 30 minutes

Exchange: RS(T) and Class (I, C or S) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW/RTTY/digital QSO

Multipliers: States and VE provinces and DXCC countries and (2x class C QSOs) and (5x class S QSOs)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 27 February 2016

Post log summary at:

<http://www.b4h.net/arrlscr/>

Mail logs to: School Club Roundup, c/o LIMARC, PO Box 392, Levittown, NY 11756, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>

Next Week's Contests

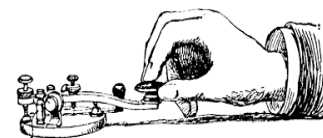
Iranian Ham Radio Contest, 00:00 UTC 1 February to 23:59 UTC 11 February
 ARRL School Club Roundup, 13:00 UTC 8 February to 23:59 UTC 12 February
 NAQCC CW Sprint, 01:30 - 03:30 UTC 19 February
 QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 10 February
 Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 10 February
 CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 10 February and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 11 February
 RSGB 80 m Club Championship, Data, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 10 February
 NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 12 February
 QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 12 February
 NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 12 February
 CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest, 00:00 UTC 13 February to 23:59 UTC 14 February

SARL National Field Day, 10:00 UTC 13 February to 10:00 UTC 14 February
 Asia-Pacific Spring CW Sprint, 11:00 UTC - 13:00 UTC 13 February
 Dutch PACC Contest, 12:00 UTC 13 February to 12:00 UTC 14 February
 KCJ Topband Contest, 12:00 UTC 14 February to 12:00 UTC 15 February
 SKCC Weekend Sprintathon, 12:00 UTC 13 February to 24:00 UTC 14 February
 OMISS QSO Party, 15:00 UTC 13 February to 15:00 UTC 14 February
 FISTS Winter Unlimited Sprint, 17:00 - 21:00 UTC 13 February
 RSGB 1st 1.8 MHz Contest, 19:00 - 23:00 UTC 13 February
 PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint, 00:00 - 23:59 UTC 14 February
 Balkan HF Contest, 12:00 - 18:00 UTC 14 February
 Classic Exchange, Phone, 14:00 UTC 14 February to 08:00 UTC 15 February and 14:00 UTC 16 February to 08:00 UTC 17 February

Local Contests

The Antique Wireless Association CW Activity Day

The aim of the CW Activity Day is for participants to contact as many amateurs as possible on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands. The Activity Day takes place from 13:00 to 15:00 UTC on Sunday 7 February 2016 on the following frequencies - 14 000 to 14 060 kHz; 7 000 to 7 040 kHz and 3 510 to 3 560 kHz



You can participate as a single operator all band, low power station (maximum 100 W); a single operator all band, QRP station (maximum 5 W); a single operator single band, low power station (maximum 100 W) or a single operator single band, QRP station (maximum 5 W).

The exchange is a RST report, the operators name and Grid Square locator. Contacts count 1 point for low power and 2 points for QRP. Certificates are awarded to the first places and the highest single band score. Log sheets must be submitted to andyzs6ady@vodamail.co.za by Monday 22 February 2016.

The South African Radio League National Field Day

The aim is to work as many stations as possible on all the HF amateur bands (excluding the 30, 17 and 12 m WARC bands). The first leg of the National Field Day will take place from 10:00 UTC on Saturday 13 February to 10:00 UTC on Sunday 14 February 2016. Activity is on all the HF bands, excluding the WARC bands (30, 17 and 12 metre bands) and you may use phone, CW, PSK and RTTY.



You and/or your club can participate in one of six classes. Class A - Field Station, Multi operator; Class B - Field Station, Multi operator, QRP; Class C - Field Station, Single Operator;

Class D - Field Station, Single Operator, QRP or Class E - Ultra Light Portable. Class F- General stations. To encourage more individuals and groups to participate in the National Field Day events, a 6-hour section has been introduced. It need not be for one continuous 6-hour period, but once operation has commenced in the contest, off periods must be a minimum of 60 minutes.

Only one call sign per station is permitted. In the case of multi-operator stations using more than one transmitter, all operators shall use the same call sign. Equipment for Field Stations may only be set up in the 24 hours prior to the starting time of the contest. This restriction applies to antennas, masts, towers and transmitting equipment, but excludes accommodation such as a caravan, tent, etc.

The exchange is a RS or RST report, the number of transmitters, the Field Day operating class and the Provincial abbreviation. Scores are based on the total number of QSO points x the power multiplier x the number of provinces worked X the class multiplier. QSO Points - each contact with a station from one of the South African provinces counts for five points. Each DX contact counts for one point. Power multipliers - x 6 for power of 5 watts or less; x 4 for power of 50 watts or less; x 2 for power of 100 watts or less and x 1 for power greater than 100 watts. The power multiplier for an entry is determined by the maximum output power used by any transmitter used to complete any contact during the event.

A multiplier of one for each one of the 9 South African provinces worked (regardless of band) and one extra for working any station outside of the 9 provinces i.e. DX. EC - the Eastern Cape; FS - the Free State; GP - Gauteng; KN - KwaZulu-Natal; LP - Limpopo; MP - Mpumalanga; NC - the Northern Cape; NW - North West; WC - the Western Cape and DX - used for all others that does not fall in the above group. Class multiplier - General stations, class multiplier of 1 and Field stations single and multi, class multiplier of 3

Logs, in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format and labelled "your call sign NFD," shall be sent by e-mail to zs4bfn@gmail.com or by post to the South African Radio League National Field Day, Box 12104, Brandhof, 9324. The closing date for log submissions is 21 February 2016. Note: A photo(s) of the station in operation (JPG format) MUST accompany every log entry.

Please consult the 2016 SARL Blue Book for the complete rules.

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter

